

25X1 COUNTRY Egypt; Great Britain; Arab World; US

25X1 SUBJECT Political - US foreign policy

25X1 HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper

WHERE
PUBLISHED Cairo

DATE
PUBLISHED 28 - 31 Jan 1953

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

25X1

[Comment: The following comprehensive summaries of four editorials appearing in the 28 and 31 January 1953 issues of the Cairo daily newspaper al-Zaman on Secretary of State John Foster Dulles' statement on US foreign policy made in late January typify Egyptian Arabic press reaction.]

Under the title, "Egypt Has Its Own Policy in the Cold War Between the US and the USSR," Edgar Jallad, publisher of al-Zaman, commented in the 28 January 1953 issue of that paper on Mr Dulles' statement and reminded the reader that the coming year will witness an intensification of the use of all political and psychological methods in the cold war, as a result of Mr Dulles' policy of taking the initiative by adopting an aggressive rather than a defensive strategy on all cold-war fronts. Jallad also discussed the countermeasures which the USSR will likely undertake.

Jallad, discussing Mr Dulles' views that the Middle East is one of the important areas in the cold war, said that this news does not call for rejoicing in the Middle East, where people are very much occupied with their various economic, political, and sociological reforms, the accomplishment of which requires an atmosphere of peace and tranquility rather than confusion, an atmosphere free from pressure and psychological warfare, whether from Moscow or Washington.

The Egyptian people, Jallad went on to say, think as Egyptians, and not as Americans or Russians. Their government and their army and its commander have set a high example for them through a nationalistic program, sound guidance, and beneficial advice. The people, who just recently demonstrated unprecedented enthusiasm and loyalty to the army, its strictly Egyptian orientation, and its pure Egyptian nationalism, are not in need of any outside inspiration, whether from Washington or from Moscow, Jallad said.

- 1 -

CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

[illegible]

25X1

RESTRICTED

Therefore, Jallad concluded, it is necessary for the statesmen of both camps to respect Egypt and its hard-working and peace-loving people. These people, he said, do not wish to see their country turned into a cold-war front between two policies, neither of which concerns them.

Egypt, Jallad concluded, has its own policy, a purely Egyptian policy, and that is enough.

In the same issue of az-Zaman and under the title, "Doesn't Dulles Remember?", Husayn Fahmi, in a strongly worded editorial, ridiculed Mr Dulles' statement that the Communists are sowing the seeds of hatred among the Arabs against the West, particularly Great Britain and the US.

Fahmi asserted that Dulles' speech was strictly for home consumption in that he hesitated to face reality and discover the basic causes of Arab hatred for the West. He wondered whether Mr Dulles is sufficiently up to date on his recent history to recall, among other things, the following:

1. The Arabs participated in World War I as allies of the West and fought against their own "Caliph of Islam," only to be rewarded by British and French occupation of their countries and by the Balfour Declaration.
2. The US was mainly responsible for the loss of Palestine to the Zionists because of its moral, military, economic, and financial support of the Jews; President Truman recognized the State of Israel 7 minutes after it was proclaimed. The US is also mainly responsible for the one million Palestine Arab refugees.
3. British troops are still stationed in Egypt, the Sudan, Jordan, Iraq, and Libya, despite Arab support of the Allies during World War II.
4. The US failed Egypt at the UN when the Egyptian case was presented.
5. The US is at present the only factor which is helping to maintain British and French imperialism in the Arab East and North Africa.
6. The reservoir of good will for the US which the late President Roosevelt had built among the Arabs was completely destroyed by President Truman.

Mr Fahmi emphasized that "usurping Britain, imperialistic France, and Zionist America" are to blame for this Arab feeling of hatred toward the West, a hatred which was caused solely by the mistakes and wrongdoings of the Big Three in their dealings with the Arabs. Fahmi also said that Dulles' utterance that this situation is the result of Communist agitation among the Arabs is an unfortunate statement and that this attitude may lead to very tragic consequences all over the world.

In the 31 January 1953 issue of az-Zaman, an editorial entitled, "I Can't Believe It," by Muhammad Iltihami, expressed great surprise at Mr Dulles' statement that the Communists are inciting the Middle East against the UK and the US and that Tunisia and Morocco are parts of the French Union. Iltihami said that the peoples of the East do not need the Communists to inspire their struggle for independence and freedom, and that Mr Dulles ignored the circumstances and similarities between the fight for independence and freedom in the Middle East and those of the American Revolutionary War, which was accompanied by hatred of the British and their eventual ejection from the country. Iltihami further stated that Mr Dulles forgot to tell anything about the Revolutionary War leaders who were responsible for starting that fight for independence.

- 2 -

RESTRICTED

25X1

RESTRICTED

Ilthami added that, had Mr Dulles been in Cairo on 14 November 1952 and on 23 January 1953, when one million united Egyptians expressed as one heart and soul their determination to fight imperialism, and that, had he heard other millions take the Liberation Organization oath, he would not have made such a statement.

The writer reminded those elements who depend on the big powers for the achievement of freedom and independence that Mr Dulles' statement proves how mistaken they are, and that the burden for achieving such aims rests on their own shoulders and on completely independent action on the part of the nations of the Middle East.

Another editorial, "The East Is Eternal," appearing in the same issue of az-Zaman and written by al-Mu'tasim as-Sa'di, attacked Mr Dulles for his statement and asserted that US policy is merely the mouthpiece of the British Foreign Office. As-Sa'di contended that such utterances as those by Mr Dulles would not leave a single individual in the Arab East who would place any hope on the US' standing for freedom and justice, and would put an end to the non-sense prevalent in the East that freedom can be achieved by bargaining on the international auction market.

As-Sa'di also stated that such statements should be good lessons to the Arabs and a strong shot in the arm for Muhammad Najib's regime in Egypt.

The greatness of the East, as-Sa'di concluded, is in its spirit, which, despite all the trials and rigors of the past centuries, will always remain strong and eternal. The US Secretary of State, he said, should advise his "cousins" the British to learn from the East the spirit of brotherhood and faithfulness.

- E N D -

- 3 -

RESTRICTED